

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-13 (Canceled).

Claim 14 (Withdrawn, Currently Amended): A process for producing a detachable, dirt- and water-repellant coating on articles, where, during the coating process, hydrophobic particles are applied to the surface of the articles and thus a surface structure with elevations is produced on the surface of the articles, and has dirt- and water-repellant properties, comprising

applying, to at least one surface, a the surfactant-free aqueous suspension ~~prepared~~ as claimed in claim [[1]] 25, and then

removing the water and the organic solvent ~~suspension medium~~.

Claim 15 (Withdrawn, Currently Amended). The process as claimed in claim 14, wherein the application of the surfactant-free aqueous suspension to at least one surface of an article takes place by dipping the article into the surfactant-free aqueous suspension.

Claim 16 (Withdrawn, Currently Amended): The process as claimed in claim 14, wherein the application of the surfactant-free aqueous suspension to at least one surface of an article takes place by spray-application of the surfactant-free aqueous suspension.

Claim 17 (Withdrawn, Currently Amended): The process as claimed in claim 16, wherein a spray is used to apply the surfactant-free aqueous suspension.

Claim 18 (Withdrawn): An article which has, on at least one surface, a water- and dirt-repellant coating produced by a process as claimed in claim 14.

Claim 19 (Withdrawn): A protective coating produced by the process as claimed in claim 14.

Claim 20 (Withdrawn): The protective coating as claimed in claim 19, which can be removed from the surface of the article by impact from a liquid with momentum greater than 12 mNs.

Claim 21 (Withdrawn): The protective coating as claimed in claim 19, which is used to protect articles, films or textiles from high levels of contamination by dirt and/or water during outdoor activities, during leisure or during work.

Claim 22 (Withdrawn): The protective coating as claimed in claim 19, which is used to protect articles and products from contamination during transport or in spaces used for purposes of sales or of presentations.

Claim 23 (Withdrawn): The protective coating as claimed in claim 19, which is used to protect technical textiles and fabrics used for textile buildings.

Claim 24 (Withdrawn, Currently Amended): An impregnating spray which comprises a the surfactant-free aqueous suspension as claimed in claim [[9]] 25.

Claim 25 (New): A surfactant-free aqueous suspension, comprising water, hydrophobic nanostructured particles and an organic solvent;

wherein the surfactant-free aqueous suspension is prepared by a process comprising:

suspending the hydrophobic nanostructured particles in at least one organic solvent miscible with water and having a boiling point below 150°C to form a concentrated organic suspension, and then

mixing the concentrated organic suspension with surfactant-free water to form the surfactant-free aqueous suspension;

wherein the surfactant-free aqueous suspension comprises at least 50.01% by weight of water;

wherein the nanostructured particle is present in an amount of from 0.01 to 1% by weight based on the total weight of the surfactant-free aqueous suspension.

Claim 26 (New): The surfactant-free aqueous suspension as claimed in claim 25, comprising from 0.1 to 49.9% by weight of at least one alcohol, wherein the alcohol is miscible with water and has a boiling point below 150°C.

Claim 27 (New): The surfactant-free aqueous suspension as claimed in claim 25, comprising at least 60% by weight water.

Claim 28 (New): The surfactant-free aqueous suspension as claimed in claim 25, wherein the hydrophobic, nanostructured particles have an average diameter of from 0.01 to 100 micron.

Claim 29 (New): The surfactant-free aqueous suspension of claim 25, wherein the average diameter of the hydrophobic, nanostructured particles is from 0.05 to 30 micron.

Claim 30 (New): The surfactant-free aqueous suspension as claimed in claim 25, wherein the hydrophobic, nanostructured particles are at least one selected from the group consisting of a mineral, aluminum oxide, a silicate, a silica, a metal oxide, a mixed oxide, a metal powder, a pigment, and a polymer.

Claim 31 (New): The surfactant-free aqueous suspension as claimed in claim 25, wherein the hydrophobic, nanostructured particles have hydrophobic properties obtained by treatment with at least one selected from the group consisting of an alkyl silane, a fluoroalkyl silane and a disilazane.

Claim 32 (New): The surfactant-free aqueous suspension of claim 25, wherein the organic solvent is at least one of acetone and tetrahydrofuran.

Claim 33 (New): The surfactant-free aqueous suspension as claimed in claim 25, wherein the organic solvent is at least one selected from the group consisting of methanol, ethanol, n-propanol and isopropanol.

Claim 34 (New): The surfactant-free aqueous suspension as claimed in claim 25, wherein the hydrophobic, nanostructured particles have an irregular surface nanostructure comprising a fine structure with features of from 10 to 100 nm.

Claim 35 (New): The surfactant-free aqueous suspension of claim 25, wherein the hydrophobic, nanostructured particles are not agglomerated.

Claim 36 (New): The process of claim 14, further comprising:  
after removing the water and the organic solvent, removing the coating from the article by impact with a liquid having a momentum greater than 12 mNs.

Claim 37 (New): The method as claimed in claim 36, wherein the liquid having a momentum of greater than 12 mNs does not contain a detergent.

Claim 38 (New): The surfactant-free aqueous suspension as claimed in claim 25, wherein the surfactant-free aqueous suspension consists of water, the hydrophobic nanostructured particles and the organic solvent.